

God - His Dominion and Power in the World

NOTES ABOUT THESE VERSES:

Though the focus here is on God's power over all things, it does NOT nullify other verses - also in the Bible - which focus on people (their actions, responsibility, accountability, etc.). Both groups of verses are true.

The writers of Scripture saw no contradiction between God's sovereignty and human responsibility. Many people think there is a "conflict" between these concepts, but the Bible considers them to be *parallel* truths, both necessary, each having reference to a *different* aspect of reality. They are like the two rails of a railroad track, always side-by-side, never crossing each other.

The idea that these concepts "conflict" with each other comes from the influences of ancient Greek philosophy and not from the Bible. It is only when we view these two truths from *this* perspective, that they cease to be *parallel*. Only then do they become like *intersecting* concepts... and the two truths end up crashing together.

1 Chronicles 29:11-16

- Supreme ownership, supreme ruler, supreme source of all that people have/are.

Job 24:22-25

- Destroys the mighty, though he may "leave them alone" for a while.

Job 26:5-14

- His works and power in all of creation: his mastery over both the realm of the dead and the realm of the living.

Job 34:14-15

- The utter dependency of all mankind upon God.

Job 34:18-30

- Impartially judging (and removing) leaders; fully aware of all that they do, yet free to remain "silent" (to *not* judge them at the present time) if he wishes. [In this case, he will deal with them at the final Day of Justice.]

Job 35:5-13

- Unaffected by the actions of men; not required to answer "prayers" [self-centered prayers].

Job 36:5-15

- Unchanging in his purposes toward mankind.

Job 36:22-37:9

- His power and works are great beyond our comprehension; no man is great (or wise) enough to question the way he does things or to suggest a better way to do it.

Job 41:10-11

- Supreme owner of all; nothing can stand up against him; no one can bring a legitimate accusation against him.

Psalm 9:5-7

- Reigning forever (with judgment); rebuking nations/destroying the wicked.

Psalm 22:28

- Dominion; ruler over the nations.

Psalm 33:10

- He foils/thwarts the plans and purposes of the nations/peoples.

Psalm 46:6

- His power over the earth - over nations/kingdoms.

Psalm 47:1-9

- Great king over all the earth; reigns over the nations; subdues them.

Psalm 66:1-7

- All earth bows down to him; he watches the nations; he rules forever by his power.

Psalm 67:4

- He rules the peoples justly and guides the nations of the earth.

Psalm 76:10 [KJV]

- [Some translations (such as the KJV): Even men's wrath will result in praise to him!]

Psalm 94:8-11

- He disciplines nations; he will also punish.

Psalm 95:1-11

- The great king above all Gods; owner of all creation.

Psalm 97:1-12

- Most High over all the earth; all see his glory; far above all "gods."

Psalm 99:2

- Exalted over all the nations.

Ecclesiastes 7:13-14

- Creator of both good and bad times [Note: remember Romans 8:28, which reminds us that both the good and the bad times are used by God, to accomplish good in those who love him!]

Ecclesiastes 11:5

- The work of God cannot be fully understood by man.

Isaiah 45:13

- Example: Raising up a king/nation for a specific purpose.

Isaiah 66:1-2

- "Heaven is my throne; earth is my footstool."

Jeremiah 27:5-11

- He made all; gives it to whomever he pleases. Example: Giving all nations (even animals) to a king, blessing those who willingly submit to that king and destroying those who don't.

Jeremiah 32:17-19

- Maker of all; unlimited power; sees all and rewards all.

Daniel 4:2-3

- "His kingdom is an eternal kingdom; his dominion endures from generation to generation."

Daniel 4:17

- "The Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes."

Daniel 4:24-26

- "The Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes."

Daniel 4:29-37

- "The Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes"; eternal dominion /enduring kingdom; he does as he pleases; no one can restrain him; "and those who walk in pride he is able to humble."

Daniel 5:18-28

- Example: Destroying someone who refused to acknowledge that "the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes."

Daniel 6:25-27

- Unending dominion /cannot be destroyed.

Habakkuk 1:5-11

- Example: Raising up an "evil empire" in order to accomplish his purposes.

Acts 7:49-50

- "Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool."

Romans 9:17

- Example: A king raised up for the purpose of displaying God's power.

Romans 13:1-2

- All authority (without exception) established by God; one's attitude toward authority reflects one's attitude toward God.

Ephesians 1:21

- Jesus Christ: far above all authorities, both now and in the future.

1 Timothy 6:15

- God, the blessed and only ruler, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Revelation 1:5

- Jesus Christ: the ruler of the kings of the earth.

Revelation 17:14

- The Lamb - Lord of Lords and King of Kings.

Revelation 19:16

- The Word of God - King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

BECAUSE God is in control, we have an obligation...

Matthew 28:18-20

- All authority belongs to Jesus; therefore, go and make disciples...

How should we respond to all this?

How about...

- Worship
- Praise
- Reverent fear
- Love
- Obedience
- Trust

"If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31b)